

Up & coming dates

Y10 Mock Exams: 21/6/2021

(postponed)

Y11 Leavers' Assembly: 18/6/2021

Y11 Leavers' Party: 18/6/2021

ARCH Day 6: 1/7/21

Friday 11/6/21

Dear Parents and Carers,

You will have received a letter from me yesterday regarding the Delta variant of Covid-19 in school. This letter was put on Class Charts and a notification text message was sent home. Just to reiterate, we did relax the wearing of masks but subject to Local Authority advice we now ask that all **children return to wearing masks in classrooms**. We have masks in school that we can provide free of charge. The current advice is if your child has been asked to self-isolate he/she will have to do this for 10 days regardless of any negative LFD/PCR test. This is the Local Authority and National advice. See our website for a leaflet with further advice.

Further to this as the Delta variant continues to affect Todmorden there is an increased chance of students being required to self-isolate. Teachers are working hard to set work for self-isolating students on a weekly basis, students will receive an email on a Sunday containing the work that needs to be completed during that week for each subject. We would advise that students follow their in-school timetable to provide structure to their day. There is an expectation for students to send a photograph / evidence of their work to their class teacher on a weekly basis so we can ensure that the work is being completed and provide feedback where necessary. We are well aware of the challenges of working independently so where students do not understand the work, they should contact their class teacher in the first instance.

If you would like to revisit the remote learning strategy that explains all of this in more detail it is available here: <http://todhigh.com/clickandbuilds/WordPress/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/Remote-Learning-Strategy-Bubble-Closure-and-Self-isolation-March-2021-update-staff.pdf>.

Year 10 mock assessments were due to begin in school from Monday 14/6 but due to the cases in Year 10 we have made the difficult decision to postpone these to 21st June at the earliest. We know that lots of revision and hard work have been, and continues to be, put into these assessments and are confident that students will show ambition and achieve well. More information regarding the re-arranged Mock exams will be released soon.

This half term all students in years 7-10 have been given Knowledge Organiser booklets. These booklets contain the key information for each topic that your child is studying this half term. They will receive a new one at the start of each half term and should keep them all as a bank of knowledge for revision. The Knowledge Organiser doesn't cover everything they will learn, but instead, ensures they have the foundation knowledge to access the unit. These Knowledge Organisers have been designed by staff to support the recall and embedding of this key information. The research suggests that we only remember 10% of what we have learnt in a day if we don't revisit the information. Every time the information is revisited, the amount retained by the brain increases. Scientists suggest that by the fourth visit, as much as 90% of the information is retained. Please encourage your child to use their Knowledge Organiser to support them with their homework and revision tasks. All knowledge organisers can be accessed on the school website through the key information for students tab. If you have any questions, please contact Miss Vose. c.vose@todhigh.co.uk

We have been made aware that leaflets have been circulated around the town, raising concerns about vaccines for young people. Please be alert to this; these flyers are not endorsed by any official body and potentially give misleading information. Should you want to read more about the vaccination programme currently rolling out across the UK, please go to: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/> where you will find a wealth of information.



As some of you will be aware, I have been hosting a virtual parent drop in fortnightly on a Wednesday 3-4pm. This is an opportunity for you to log on and speak to me if you have anything you want to discuss about school life or your child. The next time I will be live will be on Wednesday 23rd June between 3-4pm. I look forward to speaking to you there. You can access the event via the homepage on our website and upon entering the meeting you will be held in the lobby as part of a queue until I can speak to you, these slots are run on a first come, first served basis. If you don't manage to get through online, we will make every effort to get back to you. Please do pop and see me online if you have anything you want to discuss.

This Wednesday in our Ewood centre, I visited an exhibition that the students had created. Students created work based upon the theme of empathy and covering a wide range of topics, the students;

- learned about the importance of showing empathy toward others;
- learned about the meaning of- "to put yourself in someone else's shoes";
- explored what it would have been like to be a child at the time of John Fielden/factory worker. The students considered what the lives of the workers would have been like in comparison to theirs. The students undertook a range of activities to enable them to understand how difficult the tasks would have been for children in the 1800's;
- completed a collaborative artwork working together between their groups. This work formed part of the display for the final exhibition. Students also created diary entries where they included some of the facts and research they had discovered on their journey.

The final outcome of all their hard work was a wonderful Internal exhibition where the students presented their work and demonstrated their knowledge and empathy towards others, by speaking with the visiting staff about the work they had created. I really enjoyed learning about what they had been studying and was highly impressed with the quality of work. I am so proud of the work that they have done, with the help of Mrs Timewell and Mrs Stiff. Here are a few pictures of the event, a full news article will be circulated next week.



We are all very upset at the disruption to school and the inconvenience to students, parents and their families, that the new Delta variant has caused. Don't hesitate to contact us if there's anything we can help with. We are all doing our best as a community to combat the growing numbers in Todmorden, thank you for your help.

As always do get in touch if you have any questions.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'G Shirt'.

Gill Shirt
Headteacher